

Serial No.: 09/486,538

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DEC 29 2003

**OFFICIAL****REMARKS**

Claims 1-47 are pending in the application and are subject to an election requirement.

Applicants hereby elect Species I (Fig. 1) without traverse. Claims 1-21 are considered readable on the elected species. Examination of claims 1-21 is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP



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Mark D. Saralino  
Reg. No. 34,243

DATE: December 29, 2003

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RENNER OTTO

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